

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6025

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0138

FOR EA/ROC, W. LUNDY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, TW
SUBJECT: PARTICIPANT TRAINING PROGRAM SERVICES FOR TAIWAN

REF: (A) 77 STATE 290750 (B) 77 STATE 246764

1. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY HAS MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR TO GROC ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT STATE/AID DECISION TO TERMINATE ASSISTANCE FOR PARTICIPANT TRAINEES FROM ROC IS FINAL, GROC CONTINUES TO PRESS FOR GRADUAL PHASEOUT OF PROGRAM. WANG MENG-HSIEN, DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, RECENTLY CALLED IN ECON COUN TO PRESENT GROC CASE FOR CONTINUING PROGRAM UNTIL END OF FY-1978. WANG STATED THAT GROC UNDERSTANDS U.S. POSITION THAT ROC NO LONGER NEEDS FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE AND GROC IS PREPARED TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY, BUT IT SHOULD BE GIVEN REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME TO DO SO. WANG MADE SAME ARGUMENT AS T. W. HU IN NOVEMBER 29 MEETING WITH EA/ROC AND AID/SER/IT THAT ROC EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IS NOT NOW STAFFED TO HANDLE PARTICIPANTS BUT CAN BE READY TO DO SO BY END OF FY-1978. IN THE INTERIM, GROC IS PREPARED TO PAY FULL COSTS OF HANDLING PARTICIPANTS IF AID WILL CONTINUE FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE.
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WANG ALSO PICKED UP POINT THAT GROC WAS NOT NOTIFIED OF AID DECISION TO TERMINATE ASSISTANCE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1977 UNTIL MID-OCTOBER.

2. ON JANUARY 5, 1978, JCRR CHAIRMAN ROBERT C. T. LEE RAISED SUBJECT OF PARTICIPANT TRAINING WITH ECON COUN AND ON JANUARY 6 ECON COUN WAS HIT ON SUBJECT BY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Y. S. SUN. BOTH LEE AND SUN ASKED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN
PERSUADING AID TO CONTINUE ASSISTANCE UNTIL END OF FY-1978.

3. IN ALL THREE INSTANCES REFERRED TO ABOVE ECON COUN DREW
ON REFEELS IN RESPONDING AND MADE NO COMMITMENT TO DO MORE
THAN INFORM STATE/AID OF GROG CONCERN. EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW
IF THAT CONCERN IS REAL OR NOT SINCE, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS,
IT DOES NOT WISH TO ASK GROG TO DOCUMENT PROBLEMS CREATED
BY ABRUPT TERMINATION OF AID ASSISTANCE. TO DO SO COULD
KINDLE HOPE THAT AID MIGHT BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER DECISION,
AT LEAST UNTIL END OF FY-1978.

4. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT DQAGMENT HAS NOT FORMALLY
NOTIFIED GROG IN WRITING THAT PARTICIPANT TRAINEE SERVICES
HAVE BEEN TERMINATED. PERHAPS THIS SHOULD NOW BE DONE IN
ORDER TO PUT AN END TO GROG APPEAL TO THE EMBASSY FOR SUPPORT.
SULLIVAN

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